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1 November 1990
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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 35 and 153
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
IRAQI AGGRESSION AND THE CONTINUED OCCUPATION OF KUWAIT IN FLAGRANT VIOLATION OF THE CHARTER OF THE UNITED NATIONS

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 30 October 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Italy to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

We have the honour to transmit the texts, in English and French, of the declarations of the European Community on the Gulf crisis (see annex I) and on the Middle East (see annex II).

We should be grateful if you would have the text of the present letter and its annexes circulated as a document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 35 and 153, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vieri TRAXLER
Ambassador

ANNEX I

Declaration on the Gulf crisis

The European Council expresses its deep concern at the continuing deadlock in the Gulf crisis, with the persistent violation of international legality by Iraq, and in particular the prolonged and destructive occupation of Kuwait, the oppression and deportation of its population, the holding of foreign hostages and the repeated violations of conventions governing diplomatic relations. Such acts cannot be tolerated. The European Community and its member States attach the highest priority to the solution of this crisis, on the basis of the United Nations Security Council resolutions, and reaffirm that no solution is possible without the prior implementation of these resolutions.

The European Council demands that Iraq immediately, completely and unconditionally withdraw its forces from Kuwait, that the legitimate Government of Kuwait be restored and that all foreign citizens who so desire be allowed to leave Iraq and Kuwait.

The European Council, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council, condemns the Iraqi practice of holding foreign nationals as hostages and keeping some of them in strategic sites; it reminds Iraq of its international obligations in this respect and holds the Iraqi Government fully responsible for their safety. The member States of the European Community reaffirm their total solidarity in achieving the freedom of all foreign citizens trapped in Iraq and Kuwait and denounce the unscrupulous use that Iraq is making of them with the sole and vain purpose of trying to divide the international community. They unreservedly condemn this manoeuvre which, carried out in contempt of the most basic humanitarian rules, can only complicate prospects for a solution to the crisis. They affirm their determination not to send representatives of their Governments in any capacity to negotiate with Iraq the release of foreign hostages and to discourage others from doing so. They ask the Security Council to continue its efforts to achieve the immediate departure of all hostages and they encourage the Secretary-General to send a special representative to Iraq to this end.

The European Council also demands that, in accordance with the Vienna Convention, Iraq permit the free and unhindered departure of diplomats accredited to Kuwait who are at present prevented from leaving Iraq.

The European Council expresses its satisfaction at the high degree of consensus among all members of the United Nations Security Council and the international community as a whole on the above principles. It believes that such a consensus needs to be preserved in order for a peaceful solution of the crisis to be achieved. The Community and its member States are determined scrupulously to adhere to the embargo and to the other measures decided by the Security Council and call upon all other States to act in the same way. They are also prepared to consider additional steps consistent with the Charter of the United Nations.

The Presidency will notify the Iraqi Government of the text of this declaration.

ANNEX II

Declaration on the Middle East

The European Council expresses its deep dismay at the continuing violence in Lebanon. It hopes that a process of national reconciliation will effectively develop in that country. It reaffirms its strong support for the implementation of the Taif Agreements, which must be carried out by all concerned as soon as possible, thus bringing about the full restoration of the sovereignty, independence, unity and territorial integrity of a Lebanon free of all foreign troops. The European Council calls upon all parties in Lebanon to take part in this process and to co-operate with a view to the immediate restoration of conditions preventing the recurrence of such violence. The European Community and its member States will continue to support that process fully and stand ready to participate in the reconstruction of the country.

The European Council reaffirms its long-standing commitment to a just solution to the other problems of the region and the determination of the Community and its member States to spare no efforts to that end.

In this context, it intends to work for a comprehensive, just and lasting settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict and the Palestinian problem in conformity with the relevant resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and the principles set out by the Community in its previous declarations. To this end, it repeats once again its support for the principle of the convening, at an appropriate time, of an international peace conference.

The lack of any progress in the search for a peaceful settlement of the Arab-Israeli conflict is a source of deep concern to the Community and its member States, which are determined to encourage all efforts to promote dialogue between the parties directly concerned. The European Council welcomes United Nations Security Council resolutions 672 (1990) and 673 (1990), reaffirms its support for the role that the United Nations can and should play in protecting the rights of the Palestinian people, and calls once more upon Israel to meet its obligations under the Fourth Geneva Convention relative to the Protection of Civilian Persons in Time of War and to co-operate with the United Nations. The tragic events that have occurred in Jerusalem show once more that the status quo in the occupied territories is unsustainable. Just as the Community and its member States deplored those events, so they express the same feelings concerning the tragic acts of violence committed against Israeli citizens. Reminding all concerned that violence breeds violence, they repeat their appeal for calm and restraint.

The European Council welcomes the normalization of the relations between the Community and its member States and the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The European Council believes that all opportunities should be taken for the solution of the conflicts in the region. It is convinced that relations of trust and co-operation must be fostered among the countries of the region so as to establish a situation of stability, security, economic and social welfare and

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respect for civil and political rights, to prevent the recurrence of crisis, to curb the arms race and to prevent the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction. The Community and its member States are ready to co-operate with the countries concerned in the search for principles, rules and structures to that end and to contribute to the success of the task entrusted by relevant resolutions to the United Nations Secretary-General to examine measures to enhance security and stability in the region.

Just and lasting solutions to the different problems of the region can only contribute to strengthening the historical links between Europe and the countries of the Middle East and to giving full meaning to the role that the Arab world should play in the international community.

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LETTER DATED 1 NOVEMBER 1990 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to transmit to you the text of the declaration of the official spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of my country, dated 31 October 1990, in response to the fabrications and groundless claims put forward in the declarations of some American officials on the same date regarding the situation of foreigners in Iraq.

On this occasion I should like to draw attention to the fact that an official spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs also announced on the same date that the families of the foreign guests at vital installations in Iraq would be able to visit them for Christmas and the Christian New Year; family members could apply to Iraqi embassies for entry visas to Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

TEXT OF THE STATEMENT OF THE OFFICIAL SPOKESMAN OF THE IRAQI MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS, DATED 31 OCTOBER 1990

Commenting on the statements made by the American President, George Bush, the White House spokesman, Marlin Fitzwater, and Secretary of State Baker, an official spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs said it was clear that the American Administration had recently been intent on escalating the situation in the region by concocting pretexts and fabricating lies in preparation for military aggression against Iraq.

They had both stated that the American citizens who had been placed at strategic sites in Iraq were being mistreated.

We reiterate emphatically that all the foreign citizens, including Americans, who have been made guests in the country and placed at those sites enjoy full care with respect to accommodation, food and medical attention, that their situation is normal and that they are being treated well. The best confirmation of what we say is given by the large number of foreigners formerly prevented from travelling who have now been permitted to travel, including Americans who had been living in the same conditions: they have stressed the good treatment they received in the places where they were living.

Fitzwater and Baker have also claimed that there was danger to the American Embassy in Baghdad and the former American Embassy in Kuwait Province. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs reiterates emphatically that the safety of these institutions with regard to buildings and persons is fully guaranteed and that there is nothing which could constitute a danger to them. The American mission in Baghdad is carrying on its work in a normal fashion and enjoys all generally recognized diplomatic privileges and immunities.

This pack of lies and allegations, which are unsupported by any evidence, only gives expression to the aggressive intentions of which we have already warned. We shall hold the United States responsible for any act of aggression it is thinking of committing. As the President-Leader, Mr. Saddam Hussein, said the day before yesterday at his meeting with the chiefs of the armed forces, Iraq has taken all the steps necessary to withstand American aggression and repel it with whatever may be required. The evil shall be dealt a most evil defeat if they should embark upon their loathsome crime.

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LETTER DATED 1 NOVEMBER 1990 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF IRAQ TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

On instructions from my Government, I have the honour to submit to you the following information on collaboration between the former régime in Kuwait and the United States with a view to plotting against Iraq:

On 25 October 1990, Reuters news agency revealed that an advanced radar apparatus made by Westinghouse had been mounted in a balloon flying at an altitude of 10,000 metres; it had been supplied by the United States of America to the former régime in Kuwait for the observation of aircraft, vehicles and troops from a distance of 250 kilometres. The agency quoted the aviation editor of Aviation Week and Space Technology as stating that a team of foreigners, including American engineers, was controlling the position of the radar.

It is clear that this apparatus is aimed at Iraq, its national security and its strategic defence operations. This is further proof of the close co-operation and collaboration between the former régime in Kuwait and the American secret services in preparation for joint aggressive action against Iraq.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Abdul Amir AL-ANBARI
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

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6 November 1990

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NOTE BY THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Secretary-General has the honour to transmit to the members of the Security Council the attached communication that he has received from the President of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO).

Annex

Letter dated 29 October 1990 from the President of the Council of the International Civil Aviation Organization addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to advise you that at its twenty-eighth session (extraordinary), held at Montreal from 22 to 26 October 1990, the ICAO Assembly decided to put on its agenda an additional item entitled "Aeronautical consequences of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait".

As a result of its deliberations, the Assembly adopted a resolution, provisionally numbered 4/1, on the subject, enclosed herewith.

Yours sincerely

(Signed) Assad KOTAITE

Enclosure

Text of a resolution provisionally numbered 4/1 adopted by the ICAO Assembly at its twenty-eighth session (extraordinary)

(Montreal, 22-26 October 1990)

[Original: Arabic, English, French, Russian, Spanish]

Resolution 4/1. Aeronautical consequences of the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait

The Assembly:

Recalling that the Convention on International Civil Aviation is based on the belief that the future development of international civil aviation can greatly help to create and preserve friendship and understanding among the nations and peoples of the world, yet its abuse can become a threat to the general security; and that it is desirable to avoid friction and to promote that co-operation between nations and peoples upon which the peace of the world depends;

Bearing in mind the provisions and principles of the Convention on International Civil Aviation;

Noting United Nations Security Council condemnation of the invasion of Kuwait and Security Council resolution 662 (1990) which decided that annexation of Kuwait by Iraq has no legal validity and is considered null and void and called upon all States, international organizations and specialized agencies not to recognize that annexation and to refrain from any action or dealing that might be interpreted as an indirect recognition of the annexation;

Noting further Security Council resolution 661 (1990) which calls upon all States to take appropriate measures to protect assets of the legitimate Government of Kuwait and its agencies;

Noting further Security Council resolution 670 (1990) which affirmed that the specialized agencies are required to take such measures as may be necessary to give effect to the terms of resolution 661 (1990);

Noting further that Security Council resolution 670 (1990) affirmed that Decree No. 377 of the Revolutionary Command Council of 16 September 1990, which, inter alia, purported to impound assets of foreign companies, is null and void;

1. Condemns the violation of the sovereignty of the airspace of Kuwait and the plunder of Kuwait International Airport by Iraqi armed forces including the seizure and removal to Iraq of fifteen aircraft of Kuwait Airways and their purported registration by Iraq;

2. Calls upon Iraq to facilitate the early recovery by their owners of foreign registered aircraft stranded at Kuwait International Airport;

3. Declares that the unilateral registration of aircraft of Kuwait Airways as Iraqi aircraft is null and void and calls upon the Iraqi Government to return the Kuwaiti aircraft to the legitimate Government of Kuwait;

4. Requests all States in whose territory any of these aircraft are found to hand them over to the legitimate Government of Kuwait;

5. Requests all States not to supply Iraq, its companies or nationals, whether directly or indirectly, with any spare parts, equipment or supplies or services to enable Iraq to use the aircraft;

6. Requests the Council to follow up this matter with Contracting States with respect to the steps to be taken for the implementation of this resolution so that the matter may be kept under continuing review.

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NOTE VERBALE DATED 2 NOVEMBER 1990 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF NEW ZEALAND TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

The Permanent Representative of New Zealand to the United Nations presents his compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to attach, at the request of the Government of the Cook Islands, a communication concerning the implementation of sanctions under Security Council resolution 661 (1990).

Annex

Note verbale dated 8 October 1990 from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Cook Islands addressed to the Secretary-General

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Government of the Cook Islands presents its compliments to the Secretary-General of the United Nations and has the honour to refer to recent United Nations Security Council decisions relating to action to be taken with respect to Iraq, in particular resolution 661 (1990).

While the Cook Islands is not a member of the United Nations, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs wishes to inform the Secretary-General that the Government of the Cook Islands has of its volition, consonant with and in support of the relevant Security Council resolution, enacted the United Nations Sanctions (Iraq and Kuwait) Regulations 1990, a copy of which is enclosed herewith for the reference of the Secretary-General.

Enclosure

The United Nations Sanctions (Iraq and Kuwait) Regulations 1990

ORDER IN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

At Avarua, Rarotonga this 2nd day of October 1990.

Present:

HIS EXCELLENCY THE QUEEN'S REPRESENTATIVE
IN EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

PURSUANT to the United Nations Act 1946, as applied in the Cook Islands, His Excellency the Queen's Representative, acting by and with the advice and consent of the Executive Council, and for the purpose of giving effect to a resolution of the Security Council of the United Nations, adopted pursuant to the United Nations Charter on the 6th day of August 1990, to apply in respect of Iraq and Kuwait the measures set out in that resolution.

ANALYSIS

1. Title

2. Interpretation

Prohibited imports

3. Importation of goods from Iraq or Kuwait prohibited

4. Application of Customs Act 1913 to prohibited imports

5. Detention of and payment for prohibited imports

Prohibited exports

6. Exportation of goods to Iraq or Kuwait prohibited

7. Application of Customs Act 1913 to prohibited exports

8. Detention of prohibited exports

9. Loading of prohibited exports onto ships or aircraft prohibited

10. Power to withhold clearance of ship or aircraft

Prohibited transactions in relation to exports

11. Prohibited transactions in relation to exports from Iraq or Kuwait

12. Prohibition on promotion of exportation or trans-shipment of goods from Iraq or Kuwait

Prohibited transactions in relation to imports

13. Prohibited transactions in relation to imports into Iraq or Kuwait

14. Prohibition on promotion of importation of goods into Iraq or Kuwait

Prohibitions in relation to money, securities and assets

15. Prohibition in relation to transfer or delivery of money or securities

16. Prohibition on dealings in assets, money or securities in the Cook Islands

Prohibition on carriage of goods

17. Prohibition on carriage of goods to or from Iraq or Kuwait

18. Liability of owner, charterer, master or pilot in command

19. Prohibition in relation to registration of ships under the Shipping Registry Act 1985

Miscellaneous provisions

20. Offences

21. Consent of Attorney-General to proceedings in certain cases

22. Customs Act 1913 not affected

REGULATIONS

1. Title: These regulations may be cited as the United Nations Sanctions (Iraq and Kuwait) Regulations 1990.

2. Interpretation:

(1) In these regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:

"Cook Islander" means:

(a) A person belonging to the part of the Polynesian race indigenous to the Cook Islands and includes any person descended from a Cook Islander;

(b) A permanent resident of the Cook Islands within the meaning of section 2 of the Entry, Residence and Departure Act 1971-72;

(c) Any person who holds a Residence Permit within the meaning of section 2 of the Entry, Residence and Departure Act 1971-72;

"Collector" and "Comptroller" have the same meaning as in the Customs Act 1913 as applied in the Cook Islands;

"Importer" has the same meaning as in the Customs Act 1913 as applied in the Cook Islands;

"Money" includes:

(a) The bank notes and other currency, postal notes, and money orders of the Cook Islands or any other country; and

(b) Promissory notes and bills of exchange; and

(c) Any credit in an account with any person, whether that account is held in the Cook Islands or outside the Cook Islands.

"Cook Islands aircraft" means any aircraft that is registered or required to be registered in the Cook Islands under the Civil Aviation Act 1964 as applied in the Cook Islands.

"Cook Islands ship" means a ship registered in the Cook Islands, or recognized by the law of the Cook Islands as a ship belonging to the Cook Islands;

"Securities":

(a) Includes shares, stock, bonds, debentures, debenture stock, mortgages, liens, treasury bills, coupons or warrants representing dividends or interest, and life or endowment insurance policies, in whatever currency the securities are expressed and whether they are situated in the Cook Islands or elsewhere; and

(b) Also includes any document or means whereby the right to the ownership or provision of any money or security; or any interest therein, may be exercised; but

(c) Does not include promissory notes or bills of exchange.

(2) Any reference in these regulations to the transfer of any security includes a reference to a transfer of the security by way of loan, mortgage, pledge, or bailment, whether in respect of a legal or an equitable interest.

Prohibited imports

3. Importation of goods from Iraq or Kuwait prohibited:

(1) The importation into the Cook Islands of any goods being the produce or manufacture of Iraq or Kuwait is hereby prohibited.

(2) Subsection (1) of this section shall not apply with respect to any goods in respect of which the Minister of Customs is satisfied that they had been exported from Iraq or Kuwait on or before the 6th day of August 1990.

4. Application of Customs Act 1913 to prohibited imports: All the provisions of the Customs Act 1913 as applied in the Cook Islands with respect to prohibited imports (except the provisions as to monetary penalties in section 46 (5) of the Customs Act 1913) shall extend and apply with respect to goods whose importation is prohibited by section 3 of these regulations, in all respects as if the importation of the goods were prohibited under section 46 of the Customs Act 1913 as applied in the Cook Islands.

5. Detention of and payment for prohibited imports:

(1) If the Collector has reason to suspect that any goods imported into the Cook Islands are goods whose importation is prohibited by section 3 of these regulations, he or she may detain the goods.

(2) The importer of any such goods for which payment has not been made shall pay the purchase price of the goods into a Trust Bank Account operated under part IX of the Public Money and Stores Act 1987 by the Customs Department.

(3) Where any such goods have been imported into the Cook Islands before the commencement of these regulations, and payment for the goods has not been made or has not been fully made, all money payable by the importer in respect of the goods shall be paid into the account referred to in subsection (2) of this section, and not otherwise.

(4) All money in the said account shall be dealt with in such manner as the Minister of Finance may direct.

(5) Money paid into the said account shall not be money deposited for the purposes of section 260 of the Customs Act 1913 as applied in the Cook Islands.

(6) If any dispute arises as to the purchase price of any such goods imported into the Cook Islands or as to the date of payment thereof, the Comptroller may determine the matter, and the decision of the Comptroller shall be final.

Prohibited exports

6. Exportation of goods to Iraq or Kuwait prohibited: Except with the consent of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the exportation from the Cook Islands to Iraq or Kuwait, whether directly or indirectly, of any goods is hereby prohibited.

7. Application of Customs Act 1913 to prohibited exports: All the provisions of the Customs Act 1913 as applied in the Cook Islands with respect to prohibited exports shall extend and apply with respect to goods whose exportation is prohibited by section 6 of these regulations, in all respects as if the exportation of the goods were prohibited under section 47 of the Customs Act 1913 as applied in the Cook Islands.

8. Detention of prohibited exports: If a collector has reason to suspect that any goods being exported are goods whose exportation is prohibited by section 6 of these regulations, that collector may detain the goods.

9. Loading of prohibited exports onto ships or aircraft prohibited: The master of a ship or the pilot in command of an aircraft shall not permit to be laden in the ship or aircraft any goods whose exportation is prohibited by section 6 of these regulations, knowing that the goods are intended to be exported in contravention of that regulation.

10. Power to withhold clearance of ship or aircraft: A collector may withhold the clearance of any ship or aircraft so long as there are on board the ship or aircraft any goods known to that collector to be goods whose exportation is prohibited by section 6 of these regulations.

Prohibited transactions in relation to exports

11. Prohibited transactions in relation to exports from Iraq or Kuwait:

(1) No person shall in the Cook Islands, and no Cook Islander shall in any place outside the Cook Islands, enter into or be concerned in any sale, transfer, carriage, or delivery of or other dealing with any goods, knowing that they are being or have been or are intended to be exported from Iraq or Kuwait.

(2) Notwithstanding anything in subsection (1) of this section, it shall, in any prosecution for an offence against that subclause, be a defence to prove that the goods were exported from Iraq or Kuwait on or before the 6th day of August 1990.

12. Prohibition on promotion of exportation or trans-shipment of goods from Iraq or Kuwait: No person shall in the Cook Islands, and no Cook Islander shall in any place outside the Cook Islands, do any act knowing that it promotes or is calculated to promote the exportation from Iraq or Kuwait of any goods or the trans-shipment of any goods exported from Iraq or Kuwait.

Prohibited transactions in relation to imports

13. Prohibited transactions in relation to imports into Iraq or Kuwait: Except with the consent of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, no person shall in the Cook Islands, and no Cook Islander shall in any place outside the Cook Islands, enter into or be concerned in any sale, transfer, carriage, or delivery of or other dealing with any goods, knowing that:

(a) They are intended to be imported into Iraq or Kuwait; or

(b) They are to be supplied or delivered to or to the order of any person in Iraq or Kuwait; or

(c) They will be used for the purposes of any business carried on in or operated from Iraq or Kuwait.

14. Prohibition on promotion of importation of goods into Iraq or Kuwait: Except with the consent of the Minister of Foreign Affairs, no person shall do any act knowing that it promotes or is calculated to promote the importation into Iraq or Kuwait of any goods.

Prohibitions in relation to money, securities and assets

15. Prohibition in relation to transfer or delivery of money or securities: Except with the consent of the Minister of Finance, no person shall in the Cook Islands, and no Cook Islander shall in any place outside the Cook Islands, send, transfer, or deliver, or cause to be sent, transferred, or delivered, whether directly or indirectly, any money or securities:

(a) To the Government of Iraq; or

(b) To the benefit of the Government of Iraq; or

(c) To any commercial undertaking, industrial undertaking, or public utility undertaking in Iraq or Kuwait; or

(d) To the benefit of any commercial undertaking, industrial undertaking, or public utility undertaking in Iraq or Kuwait; or

(e) To the benefit of any person in Iraq or Kuwait; or

(f) To the benefit of any business carried on in or operated from Iraq or Kuwait.

16. Prohibition on dealings in assets, money, or securities in the Cook Islands: Except with the consent of the Minister of Finance, no person shall knowingly transfer, pay for, sell, assign, dispose of, or otherwise deal with any assets, money, or securities held in the Cook Islands:

(a) By the Government of Iraq or the Government of Kuwait; or

(b) By any agencies or bodies controlled by the Government of Iraq or the Government of Kuwait.

Prohibition on carriage of goods

17. Prohibition on carriage of goods to or from Iraq or Kuwait:

(1) This section applies to:

(a) Any Cook Islands ship;

(b) Any Cook Islands aircraft;

(c) Any other ship or aircraft that is, for the time being, chartered to any person being a Cook Islander or a body incorporated or constituted under the law of the Cook Islands.

(2) Without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing provisions of these regulations, no ship or aircraft to which this section applies shall be used for the carriage of any goods:

(a) If the goods are being or have been exported from Iraq or Kuwait; or

(b) If the carriage is, or forms part of, carriage from any place outside Iraq or Kuwait to any destination in Iraq or Kuwait or to any person for the purposes of any business carried on in or operated from Iraq or Kuwait.

(3) Nothing in subsection (2) (a) of this section shall apply in any case where it is proved that the goods were exported from Iraq or Kuwait on or before the 6th day of August 1990.

(4) Nothing in this section shall apply to any carriage of goods in respect of which the consent of the Minister of Foreign Affairs has been given under any other provision of these regulations.

18. Liability of owner, charterer, master, or pilot in command:

(1) If any ship or aircraft is used in contravention of section 17 (2) (a) of these regulations, then:

(a) In the case of a Cook Islands ship or aircraft, the owner and the master of the ship or, as the case may be, the owner and the pilot in command of the aircraft; or

(b) In the case of any other ship or aircraft, the charterer of the ship or aircraft and, if the master of the ship or pilot in command of the aircraft is a Cook Islander, such master or pilot in command,

shall each be guilty of an offence against these regulations, unless he or she proves that he or she did not know and had no reason to suppose that the goods were being or had been exported from Iraq or Kuwait.

(2) If any ship or aircraft is used in contravention of section 17 (2) (b) of these regulations, then:

(a) In the case of a Cook Islands ship or aircraft the owner and the master of the ship or, as the case may be, the owner and the pilot in command of the aircraft; or

(b) In the case of any other ship or aircraft, the charterer of the ship or aircraft and, if the master of the ship or pilot in command of the aircraft is a Cook Islander, such master or pilot in command,

shall each be guilty of an offence against these regulations, unless he or she proves that he or she did not know and had no reason to suppose that the carriage of goods was, or formed part of, carriage from any place outside Iraq or Kuwait to any destination therein or to any person for the purposes of any business carried on in or operated from Iraq or Kuwait.

(3) In this section, the terms "owner" and "charterer", in relation to a ship, include any person acting as the agent of the owner or as the case may be, the agent of the charterer.

19. Prohibition in relation to registrations of ships under the Shipping Registry Act 1985: No person shall in the Cook Islands, and no Cook Islander shall in any place outside the Cook Islands, cause the registration of any ship under the Shipping Registry Act 1985 whether directly or indirectly for:

(a) The Government of Iraq; or

(b) The benefit of the Government of Iraq; or

(c) Any commercial undertaking, industrial undertaking, or public utility undertaking in Iraq or Kuwait; or

(d) The benefit of any commercial undertaking, industrial undertaking, or public utility undertaking in Iraq or Kuwait; or

(e) The benefit of any person in Iraq or Kuwait; or

(f) The benefit of any business carried on in or operated from Iraq or Kuwait.

Miscellaneous provisions

20. Offences: Every person commits an offence against these regulations and shall be liable accordingly under section 3 of the United Nations Act 1946 as applied in the Cook Islands, who acts in contravention of or fails to comply in any respect with any of the provisions of these regulations.

21. Consent of Attorney-General to proceedings in certain cases: Proceedings for the trial and punishment of any person who is charged with having committed outside the Cook Islands any offence against these regulations shall not be instituted in any Court except with the consent of the Attorney-General and on his certificate that it is expedient that the proceedings be instituted.

22. Customs Act 1913 not affected: Nothing in these regulations shall limit or affect the operation of the Customs Act 1913 as applied in the Cook Islands.

Acting Clerk of the Executive Council

These Regulations are administered in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

BY AUTHORITY:

T. KAPI, Government Printer, Rarotonga, Cook Islands - 1990.

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda item 35
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 2 November 1990 from the Permanent Representative of Lebanon to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

On instructions from my Government, and further to our previous letters on the repeated Israeli acts of aggression against Lebanese territory, I have the honour to inform you that Israel has committed a further act of aggression against Lebanon, the sixteenth such act this year.

At 1.30 p.m., on Thursday, 1 November 1990, four Israel Air Force F-16 planes attacked the village of Majdal Balhis (in the region of Rashayya al-Wadi in the western Bekaa), subjecting it to heavy bombardment, which resulted in three dead and a number of wounded, destroyed a two storey building and another building next to it, and inflicted heavy damage on over 20 houses.

The Government of Lebanon protests against and vigorously condemns this act of aggression and denounces the continuation of these aggressive acts, which are directed against the sovereignty of Lebanon and the inviolability of its airspace and territory and constitute a flagrant violation of international charters and norms and show disdain for the life and security of the public.

I should be grateful if you would have this letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda item 35, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Khalil MAKKAWI
Permanent Representative

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Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 23, 35 and 75
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE
TO INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF
THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER
ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 2 November 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of Palestine, to transmit to you the report of the commission, appointed by the Higher Islamic Council, for inquiry and collection of documents and information concerning the latest events at the Haram al-Sharif on 8 October 1990.

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter and the annexed report circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 23, 35 and 75, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Nasser AL-KIDWA
Alternate Permanent Observer of
Palestine to the United Nations
Chargé d'affaires, a.i.

ANNEX

REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY AND COLLECTION OF DOCUMENTS AND INFORMATION

To His Holiness, the Head of the Higher Islamic Council/Jerusalem

In response to your letter of 24 Rabia Awal 1411, 13 October 1990, in which you appointed us to conduct an inquiry and to collect information and documentation, we are the commission, composed of:

Sheikh Ibrahim Said Sabri, Jerusalem Sharia Court Judge, member of the Islamic council: Head of the Commission of Inquiry;

Sheikh Mohammad Ahmad Yassin, assistant to the Director of the Holy al-Aqsa Mosque, member of the Islamic Council: Commission Member;

Attorney Hazhem Khalil Issa, member of the Islamic Council: Member;

Sheikh Yasser Abdul Majid Abu Ghazaleh, head of the Education and Religious Instruction: Rapporter.

In order the carry out our mandate, the Commission took the following steps:

(1) We listened to eye-witness accounts and collected sworn affidavits from over 50 eye-witnesses, attached to this report (Appendix 10);

(2) Visited the hospitals, heard the testimonies of the wounded, and interviewed medical staff, doctors and nurses;

(3) Visited the local media (an-Nahar, a-Shaab, al-Fajr, al-Quds) and the Arab Journalists Association, whom we thank for their cooperation;

(4) Surveyed the press and Arab bulletins, and translations from the Hebrew press and reports issued by specialized societies;

(5) Examined the site of the events and material evidence left on al-Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock buildings, columns, doors and plazas, and the remains of spent ammunition (Appendix 12);

(6) Supported our account with personal data, written testimonies, and photographs, which are attached to the report.

Before we turn to our conclusions, we shall briefly refer to the significance of the Holy al-Aqsa Mosque for the Moslem.

The Significance of the Holy al-Aqsa Mosque

"Glory to God, who did take his servant on a journey by night from the sacred mosque to the farthest mosque whose precincts we did bless, in order that we might show him some of our signs, for he is the one who hears and sees (all things)" (Sura XVII).

"The prophet said, 'The journeys are to three mosques: the sacred mosque, the farthest mosque and my mosque'"(al-Bukhari).

The al-Aqsa Mosque is the first qibla (direction for prayer) for Moslems, and the third most sacred mosque, and the reward for each prayer in the Mosque or its plaza equals 500 prayers.

The Holy al-Aqsa Mosque is a part of the Moslem faith all over the world, and they are ready to give up their lives for it. What happened on the Day of the Martyrs, Monday, 8 October 1990, is clear proof of that. The Moslems are ready to sacrifice everything to preserve it and anyone who harms it is harming the Moslems in their faith, which is the most precious thing to the Moslem.

Al-Aqsa Mosque is the whole area surrounded by the walls including the gates, the plazas, the Mosateb, the Mahareb, and the Zawaya, and the buildings of al-Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock Mosques -- all of these together are an Islamic mosque and any attack on any part of it is an attack on al-Aqsa itself and its sanctity. The outside walls of al-Aqsa also belong to the Moslems themselves and only Moslems have the right to this place. See the order concerning the (western wall or wailing wall) in Palestine, 1931, and the Bulletin in the Palestine Laws, 1933, Fourth Volume, p. 3397, translation to Arabic (Appendix 3).

Causes of the Massacre

Background on the Temple Mount Faithful

(A) the Temple Mount Faithful is one of the most extreme religious Jewish groups, established in 1967 by Gershon Soloman, and its aim is to exercise Israeli authority over the Holy al-Aqsa Mosque and to build the third Jewish Temple, (to replace the previous temple) which allegedly was on the al-Aqsa and Dome of the Rock site. This group distributes bulletins showing a picture of the temple built, according to their imagination, on the ruins of the two mosques. (An example is attached).

The Temple Mount Faithful refuses to accept that the Mosque is in Moslems hands, and they have tried throughout the years to enter the Mosque area during religious events, in order to put facts on the ground, in fulfilment of their criminal intentions. Every one of these attempts has resulted in clashes between them and the Moslems and every attempt has failed, because the Mosque is

Islamic and this is God's will (Attached report about all attempts since 1967, Appendix 4).

Prior to the last events, this group declared in a bulletin distributed to the Israeli media during their Succot holidays, that they plan to march on 8 October 1990 toward the Holy al-Aqsa Mosque. They said that they seek to liberate the Mount, meaning the Holy al-Aqsa, from the hands of the Arabs, and they also said that they will place a succa in front of the Maghrabeh Gate and they called upon Jews to attend the march. According to them, this march will be the culminating act, in which they will place the cornerstone for the so-called "third temple" (Appendix 5: translation of the bulletin). Even after the bloody events, the extremist Gershon Solomon declared that the Arab-Islamic occupation of the Holy al-Aqsa area should end and that Jews must renew their deep connection to the holy sites (See Appendix 6: a-Shaab, p. 1, no. 5901).

(B) Only a few days before the al-Aqsa massacre, Prime Minister Shamir announced a plan to take over holy Jerusalem, and to force everyone to accept the Israeli annexation, and the police also announced that they will use new methods in confronting the events.

(C) Extremists like MK Geula Cohen and Ministers Ne'eman and Sharon and others expressed deep hatred against the Arabs and called for using all means against them.

The Events of the Massacre

(A) Prior to the Massacre

(1) In light of the Temple Mount Faithful announcement, Moslems gathered on Monday, 19 Rabia Awal 1411, 8 October 1990, on the Day of the Martyrs at al-Aqsa Mosque, in order to prevent this group from entering the Mosque plaza. Moslems started coming to the Mosque at the dawn prayers.

The Moslems were disciplined and quiet. Preachers and Islamic scholars gave religious lessons and people prayed to God to keep their mosque and to remove the evil from them and their mosque (See Appendix 7: photos of mid-morning prayers, a few minutes before the massacre).

(2) The employees of the Islamic waqf, with the help of Moslems, clergy and elderly Moslems, attempted to control the situation and they created a human chain to separate those praying from fully-armed Israeli soldiers who were on the Mosque plaza between the Maghrabeh and Chain Gates and on the western roofs between the two gates. This human chain prevented anyone from approaching the Maghrabeh Gate, and the distance between the two groups was 50 meters. The situation continued to be calm until the massacre started. It was a massacre committed by the Israeli occupation

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forces with all its units -- border guards, police, unidentified plain-clothed people.

(3) The officer in charge of the border guard unit (Shlomo Katabi), known as "the Yemenite," threatened the assistant to the Director of the Mosque: "This is your day and we don't play around here" (free translation from the Hebrew). The officer in charge of the Mosque police station, whose name in Zion Said, said, "If a small stone is thrown on us, we will shoot with live ammunition and I will kill 100,000 Moslems." Other threats of bloodshed were repeated from time to time, and the Yemenite officer provoked the Moslems with body gestures, as was stated in eye-witness testimonies.

(4) The Israeli authorities did not allow tourists into the Mosque on that day, unlike in previous similar events, and it is believed that they did so, because they did not want the world to see what they had planned against the Moslems and their Mosque.

(5) The Israeli authorities did not limit Moslems coming into the Mosque, as they have in the past.

(6) The Israeli authorities did, however, allow extremist Jews, including the Temple Mount Faithful, to march toward al-Aqsa Mosque on Monday 8 October 1990, and the police and border guards know that Moslems will defend the Mosque with their bodies and souls. If the police and border guard command were interested in peace and calm, they would have prevented these groups from coming, and prevented them from distributing their bulletin to the press and media. By allowing these things, they challenged the Islamic faith and sensitivities of one billion Moslems.

(7) Jewish worshipers were evacuated from the Holy Buraq Plaza (Wailing Wall) before the shooting started.

(B) The Beginning of the Massacre

(1) Everything was quiet and religious classes were taking place, when all of a sudden, at about 10:40, screams were heard from women who were on the southeast Mostaba of the Dome of the Rock, known as al-Kark Mostaba.

Moslems started rushing toward the source of the screams and the people chanted, "Allahu Akbar." The soldiers started shooting live ammunition, rubber bullets and tear gas, in many places. As the women continued screaming, more tear gas was thrown on them. In response to the shooting, Moslems stoned the soldiers on the Mosque area between the Maghrabeh and Chain Gates and the walls on the western side. Shooting and sniping continued to rain on the Moslems from the windows and roofs of Tankazia School (al-Mahkama) and there was shooting from an automatic weapon while a helicopter was flying over the al-Aqsa area. Persons in civil-dress also started shooting from the al-Sharaf Quarter (known as the Jewish Quarter) and from other places. All of this shooting

caused the fall of a few martyrs.

A few minutes later, a huge number of border guards and police raided al-Aqsa Mosque from the Maghrabeh and Chain Gates, and started shooting intensely with live ammunition, as if they were in a real war. They shot in all directions, without justification, indiscriminately hitting women, youths and the elderly, and even stones and trees.

(2) The Inhuman and Immoral Behavior of the Israeli Occupation Forces

(a) They shot live ammunition at praying Moslems at close range without any justification.

(b) One 11 year old girl testified that she was shot in her hand by a soldier from a distance of approximately 10 meters (See Appendix 8).

(c) One injured person testified that he was trying to help a wounded person when a soldier who was a few meters away shot him with live ammunition and hit his left kneee and his right foot, causing him to fall to the ground. The soldier came over and stepped on his head and hit him with his gun, and hit the other wounded person with his gun (Appendix 9).

(d) A 15 yeear old youth testified that he was hiding behind one of the columns when he was shot by four bullets in different parts of his body; he is in critical condition (Appendix 10).

(e) A group of Moslems praying were surrounded by a group of soldiers who shot them with live ammunition and rubber bullets. Two were killed, others were injured and some were arrested. Moreover, the soldiers stepped on the dead and the injured and beat those arrested (See Appendices 11 and 12: photograph of this event and eye-witness affidavit).

(f) Tear gas and live ammunition were fired at an ambulance in front of al-Aqsa Mosque, while the staff were trying to rescue people. Dr. Tareq Abu al-Hawa was hit in his leg, nurse Fatma Abu Khdoir was hit on her hand and other parts of her body, and nurse Mohammad Abu Ryaleh was hit in his kidneys (Appendix 13, 14, 15).

(g) Soldiers delayed the evacuation of the wounded from the al-Aqsa mosque building, which contributed to the death of three persons who were inside the mosque; and they delayed ambulances on their way to the hospitals.

(h) Wounded people were forced out of ambulances, beaten and arrested.

These are only some examples of the soldiers' actions against peaceful worshipers who closed the doors of the mosques on themselves, while other ran to hide between trees but were shot, and others were chased and shot on the al-Aqsa plaza. During the

events, soldiers entered from the Asbat and Majlis Gates and surrounded worshipers trying to flee. The soldiers closed all the outside gates to prevent worshipers from leaving and arrested tens of them, and handcuffed them with plastic handcuffs, beat them and insulted them (Appendix 16).

Live ammunition and tear gas, which is prohibited from being used in closed areas, were fired into the two mosques.

Prohibited Weapons

Soldiers fired gas and high-velocity live ammunition that exploded on impact at peaceful, unarmed worshipers, without any warning and without justification. These actions of the occupation forces violate all divine and international laws and customs, including the Fourth Geneva Convention of 22 August 1949 for the Protection of Civilians, which prohibits such attacks on persons and their physical integrity. They also violated the Hague Declaration of 29 July 1899 and the Geneva Declaration of 12 June 1925, which both prohibit the use of explosive ammunition and gases which may damage the health (Appendix 17).

The Determination to Kill

The border guard officers in charge and the police did not listen to the calls of the muazin to stop the massacre and to stop shooting in order to evacuate the wounded and the dead. Rather, they continued with their brutal force against Moslems, armed only with their faith which fills their hearts, their faith that will save the oppressed and defeat their oppressors. Some of the Awqaf officials and members of the Islamic Higher Council and the Ulama' tried unsuccessfully to speak rationally to the officers and to convince them to stop the shooting. They were answered by filthy words and threats, and Zion, the police station officer, confiscated the al-Aqsa keys.

Meanwhile the police arrested Mr. Faisal Husseini, member of the Islamic Council, when he objected to the behavior of soldiers while they were forcing two wounded persons out of the ambulance and arrested the driver. When the officials of the Awqaf and the Ulama' insisted on trying to convince them to stop shooting, they were given twenty seconds to leave or they would be shot at, and they added that they were not kidding. The shooting continued for almost one and a half hours.

Refutation of Claims

The Israeli authorities claim that Moslems threw stones on Jewish worshipers, but what the world thought they saw on Israeli television is a lie. There is no evidence that any Jewish worshipers were seriously injured by the small stones thrown in self-defense

which landed on the Wailing Wall Plaza. Moslems, according to their belief and teachings respect other religions and would never deliberately assault them. If it were true that they intended to disrupt the Jewish worshipers, why were the Moslems since dawn in the Mosque and not throwing any stones during the time that over 20,000 Jewish worshipers were in the Buraq Plaza. When the events started, at about 10:40, the Plaza had been cleared of worshipers.

The only reason that Moslems were in the mosques was to defend them and to prevent the Temple Mount Faithful from entering the Holy al-Aqsa to fulfil their dream. The throwing of stones toward the soldiers was in response to the unprovoked shooting of the Israeli soldiers and was an act of self-defense.

How could Moslems throw huge stones from a distance of tens of meters to fall on the Buraq Plaza? Even many of small stones thrown at the soldiers positioned by the Maghrabeh Gate fell on the Mosque Plaza after hitting the inside wall. Perhaps a few stones fell into the Buraq area because the soldiers were positioned in the high arches of the western wall and they were shooting from there. The soldiers who fired from those positions are to blame if stones fell on the Buraq Plaza. It is completely unreasonable to assume that the large building stones were thrown from tens of meters, no matter what the strength of the thrower. Moreover, the arches are eight meters high and seven meters wide, and the soldiers were also shooting.

The authorities claim that Jews were injured, but none of them was shown on television. We know that the Buraq Plaza was empty. If there indeed had been 20,000 worshipers present and if the large building stones shown on television were indeed thrown on them, what would have happened to these worshipers? All the claims about these stones and injured Jews are clearly refuted lies, with no basis in fact. They are merely fabrications to justify their crime against the Moslems.

The Day After the Massacre

The Israeli soldiers prohibited Moslems from entering al-Aqsa and closed all the gates. They prohibited a press conference inside the Mosque and prohibited the Awqaf employees and the members of the Islamic Council from entering the Mosque. When the Moslems insisted to pray the noon prayers, Israeli soldiers and officers threw sound bombs and tear gas in the area of the Majlis Gate. The Head of the Islamic Council, Sa'ad Eddin al-Alami, fainted and was transferred to the Intensive Care Unit at Maqassad hospital. Other elderly people fainted as well, and Moslems were dispersed by force. They left the Majlis Gate area. Some of them entered the Awqaf offices next to the Majlis Gate and they were prevented from leaving, and people were prevented from going in to see them (Appendix 18).

On the evening of 9 October 1990, the gates were opened at 17:00, following the intervention of the international community who heeded the appeal of the Awqaf and the Islamic Council. Moslems entered the Mosque for evening prayers. Sheikh Mohammad Said al-Jamal, the Islamic Courts inspector, was arrested in the early hours of 9 October 1990 and accused of incitement, despite the fact that he had called upon the soldiers and the officers to stop shooting.

Conclusions

1. The tragic events on the Day of the Martyrs, Monday 8 October 1990, was not an accident, but a premeditated, well-planned operation by the command of the border guards and the police, as we have indicated in this report. These two commands would not have committed this massacre without a green light from the political eschelon of the Israeli leadership. The border guards and police initiated the shooting and the entire event.

2. The inhuman and immoral treatment by the border guards and police against worshipers, wounded, arrested, and medical staff shames every civilized person and every democratic state which stand for equality and the preservation of human and religious rights.

3. The intense and indiscriminate shooting to kill, and only to kill, without any justification, was demonstrated by the extensive number of injuries and the targetting of youth, women, children, and elderly in the head and chest.

4. As a result of this event, 18 were killed and hundreds were injured and arrested.

5. The buildings of al-Aqsa and the Dome of the Rock, the walls of the Dome of the Rock, the columns, the plazas, gates and minarets were shot with hundreds of bullets and tear-gas canisters.

6. Moslems threw stones at the soldiers only after they were shot at with live ammunition and tear gas, and then only to defend themselves and to stop the soldiers. Moslems did not in any way assault holy places and worshipers from other religions, an act which would be against the very essence of their religion.

7. The use of live ammunition which shattered on impact, causing extensive internal damage, and the use of tear gas in prohibited manners against unarmed people violated international law and accepted humanitarian standards.

8. The brutal pattern of shooting, with no justification whatsoever, only to terrorize Moslems to appease extremist Jews, will not succeed to frighten Moslems, who fear only God Almighty.

9. In presenting this report, we pray to God Almighty to take the martyrs into his mercy and into their rightful place in paradise, to speed the recovery of the wounded and the release of those arrested, and to protect our Holy al-Aqsa Mosque from every evil and assault. Moslems will remain steadfast as the defenders of the Mosque, no matter what the risk, no matter what the sacrifice. Until God will determine what is to happen, may He help those who help Him, for God is Almighty.

Signed:

Ibrahim Said Sabri
Head of the Commission

Mohammad Ahmad Yassin
Member

Hashem Khalil Issa
Member

Yasser Abdul Majid Abu Ghazaleh
Member

Jerusalem
9 Rabia Thani 1411 Hijra
28 October 1990

UNITED
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Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/21927
5 November 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Draft resolution

The Security Council,

Recalling its resolutions 637 (1989) of 27 July 1989 and 644 (1989) of 7 November 1989, as well as the statement made by the President of the Security Council on its behalf on 7 November 1989, 1/

1. Approves the report of the Secretary-General contained in document S/21909;

2. Decides to extend, under its authority, the mandate of the United Nations Observer Group in Central America, as defined in resolution 644 (1989), for a further period of six months, that is until 7 May 1991, bearing in mind the report of the Secretary-General contained in document S/21909 and the need to continue to monitor expenditures carefully during this period of increasing demands on peace-keeping resources;

3. Requests the Secretary-General to keep the Security Council fully informed of further developments and to report on all aspects of the operations of the Observer Group before the expiry of the new mandate period.

1/ S/20952.

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5 November 1990

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GENERAL ASSEMBLY
Forty-fifth session
Agenda items 23, 35 and 75
QUESTION OF PALESTINE
THE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST
REPORT OF THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO
INVESTIGATE ISRAELI PRACTICES
AFFECTING THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF THE
PALESTINIAN PEOPLE AND OTHER
ARABS OF THE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES

SECURITY COUNCIL
Forty-fifth year

Letter dated 5 November 1990 from the Chargé d'affaires a.i. of the Permanent Observer Mission of Palestine to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I am instructed by the Executive Committee of the Palestine Liberation Organization, which has the powers and responsibilities of the Provisional Government of Palestine, to bring the following to your immediate attention:

The Israeli Security Forces have been waging a campaign of oppression and terror against Palestinian civilians in the occupied Gaza Strip, during the last 48 hours and until the present time. This campaign of oppression, which we believe comes in implementation of a political decision by the Government of Israel, resulted in 700 casualties among Palestinians of all ages and from all over the region, especially cities of Gaza and Rafah. Among those casualties over 200 have been caused by live ammunition.

This situation requires immediate consideration and action by the international community, in particular by the Security Council when it resumes its deliberations in accordance with paragraph 4 of Security Council resolution 673 (1990).

I should be grateful if you would arrange to have the text of the present letter circulated as an official document of the General Assembly, under agenda items 23, 35 and 75, and of the Security Council.

(Signed) Dr. Nasser AL-KIDWA
Alternate Permanent Observer
of Palestine to the United Nations
Chargé d'affaires a.i.